Application No.: 10/549,703 Docket No.: 3691-0123PUS1

**REMARKS** 

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7 and 20 have been amended as set forth herein. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 21-23

have been cancelled. All amendments and cancellations are made without prejudice or

disclaimer. Entry of the above amendments and an early and favorable first action on the merits

is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present

application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gerald M. Murphy, Jr. (Reg. No.

28,977) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort

to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies

to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional

fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.

Registration No. 28,977

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Rd

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

·4V3